

## REPORT

To: SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB COMMITTEE	Subject: INTEGRATED ADDICTION SERVICES	
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 5 DECEMBER 2006	Ref: JD/GM	

## 1. Purpose of Report/Introduction

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee on the progress and the work associated with the development of an integrated addiction service for North Lanarkshire.

## 2. Background

- 2.1. In August 2006 a report was submitted to Social Work Committee seeking approval for the management structure of the proposed integrated addiction service. The report highlighted that the plans for this service were driven by the strategic policies of the Council, NHS Lanarkshire and the Scottish Executive.
- 2.2. Since this report was approved, work continues in laying the foundations for the new additions structure which will result in tangible benefits for the communities of North Lanarkshire Council.
- 2.3. A major concern of any convergence of services is hopes, fears and aspirations of staff who are employed in the agencies which will form the integrated service.
- 2.4. As part of the planning arrangements, considerable attention has been given to the communication arrangements for those staff who are involved in the integrated service development. To this end, there have been team briefings, training and development days for those concerned.
- 2.5. The latest development day was held in September 2006, this was a combined event which brought together all the relevant staff from Social Work and NHS Lanarkshire. Senior Managers from both agencies contributed to the proceedings. In addition addiction staff from Glasgow's Integrated Addiction Service also attended the event to outline their experience of combining staff from different agencies into a cohesive service.
- 2.6. The development day looked at a number of important areas covering customer focus, training/staff development, stakeholders and partnership working, prioritisation of services, procedures and supporting frontline staff.
- 2.7. The development day was well received by the staff and resulted in the identification of a number of key issues which have been included in the organisational development plan for the service.
- 2.8. It is anticipated that appointments to the key managerial positions (approved by Committee) will be made before the end of the year. The accommodation needs of the service have not been fully resolved, however it is hoped that a practical solution may be arrived at to enable the launch of the new service in the Spring of 2007.

### 3. **Financial/Personnel/Legal/Policy Implications**

- 3.1. The integration of services accords with the policy of partnership approach to service delivery between North Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire.
- 3.2. The staffing costs associated with the new service will be met from within existing NHS and Social Work budgets.
- 3.3. The costs associated with the integration of services will be contained within the budget parameters of the existing services.

### 4. **Recommendation**

- 4.1. Committee is requested to: -
  - i. Note the terms of this report.



**Director of Social Work**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> November 2006**

For further information on this report please contact George McNally, Manager Social Work Strategy on telephone 01698 332555.